



John L. Salomone  
Town Manager

# TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET  
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

**MAYOR STEPHEN WOODS**

## MINUTES

### NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL 7:00 P.M.

**June 26, 2011**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION RE: POLICE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS 6:45 P.M., CONF. ROOM 1 (ROOM 117)**

Councilor Bottalico moved to adjourn the executive session at 6:58 p.m. and the motion was seconded by Councilor Castelle. Motion passed 8-0 (Councilor Klett Absent)

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**Mayor Woods called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Helen Nelson Room in Town Hall.**

#### **I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **II. ROLL CALL**

Councilor Borjeson  
Councilor Bottalico  
Councilor Castelle  
Councilor Cohen  
Councilor DelBuono  
Councilor Klett – absent  
Councilor McBride  
Councilor Nagel  
Mayor Woods

Staff in attendance:

John Salomone –Town Manager  
Jamie Trevethan – Executive Assistant  
Linda Irish-Simpson – Clerk of the Council

#### **III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL (In Person/Via Telephone)**

Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive: She stated that the Town spent \$1M plus on the Clem Lemire Turf Field project and once again the Town did not include signs directing the public to the park entrance from Willard Avenue from Main Street. She noted that the Parks and Rec Department recently stated they had one rental for the field in the amount of \$900. She hoped common sense would be used for the appropriation of signs so people could get to the various completed projects in Town.

#### **IV. CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS**

##### **A. Blight Ordinance Discussion**

Councilor Nagel stated there was not a quorum for the last meeting of the committee so an informal session was held. They discussed concerns individuals had with the ordinance, which were given to the attorney for review of what could or could not be included in the ordinance.

Mayor Woods indicated the item would be tabled and discussed at a later date. He stated the committee would be meeting on July 10 at 5:30 p.m.

##### **B. Suspense List**

John Salomone stated it was an accounting item to remove items that were on the books and still collectable. They go to the Suspense List and go off the receivables for the ratio collected versus non-collected funds.

Councilor DelBuono moved the following:

##### **RESOLVED:**

**The Newington Town Council hereby authorizes transfers in the amount of \$98,071.61 to the Suspense Tax Book for the years 2009-2010 through 2010-2011. This action is being taken upon the recommendation of the Revenue Collector and as shown in a report dated June 6, 2012.**

The motion was seconded by Councilor Cohen and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett-absent)

##### **RESOLVED:**

**The Newington Town Council hereby authorizes the outstanding balance from the 1996 Grand List in the amount of \$6,233.26 be removed from the Town's receivable assets as of June 30, 2012 as per the recommendation of the Revenue Collector.**

The motion was seconded by Councilor Cohen and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett-absent)

##### **C. Job Description: Maintainer III (Schools)**

Lou Jachimowicz indicated the Maintainer II position was multi-faceted for the Board of Ed. The changes between the two classifications would be mainly two: Safety/OSHA Compliance and locksmith. The individual currently doing the job has been with the Town 20 years and the last seven as a locksmith. The salary difference would be approximately 3% or \$1,600/year.

Councilor Castelle moved the following:

##### **RESOLVED:**

**The Newington Town Council hereby approves of amendments to the "Classification and Pay Plan" by approving the Maintainer III LT-10 (Schools) job description.**

The motion was seconded by Councilor Bottalico and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett-absent).

##### **D. Award Bid: John Wallace Roof Replacement**

Councilor Castelle indicated the lowest bid received was Beaulieu Company of Manchester and the bid was lower than the architect estimate. The available funds for the project amount of \$916,961 and the anticipated expenditures would be \$792,597. Mayor Woods stated the contingency fund had approximately \$100k more than was anticipated. Lou Jachimowicz stated there was good competition for the bid with several contractors walking through.

Councilor Castelle moved the following:

**RESOLVED:**

That the Newington Town Council, pursuant to Chapter 8, Article X, Project Building Committees, of the Newington Code of Ordinances; and upon the recommendation of the Board of Education Roof Replacement Project Building Committee; hereby accepts the bid of the Beaulieu Company of Manchester, Connecticut in the amount of \$712,815.00, for the remaining roof replacement work at John Wallace Middle School.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That the Newington Town Council authorizes the Town Manager, John L. Salomone, to execute appropriate contracts the Beaulieu Company of Manchester, Connecticut to accomplish the construction in accordance with the bid specifications.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That the Newington Town Council hereby accepts the project budget as follows:

**REVENUES**

Balance Forward	\$ 416,961.00
2012-13 Appropriation	<u>\$ 500,000.00</u>
Available Funds	\$ 916,961.00

**ANTICIPATED EXPENDITURES**

Construction (Bid Amount)	\$ 712,815.00
Contingency (10%)	\$ 71,282.00
Design Construction Admin.	<u>\$ 8,500.00</u>
Total	\$ 792,597.00

The motion was seconded by Councilor Cohen and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett – absent).

- E. Accept Project/Disband Committee: Clem Lemire Synthetic Turf Field Project

Councilor Bottalico asked about money that was taken out of the contingency fund and when money was given back, where did the returned money go. Mr. Salomone indicated the money would go back into the capital projects fund. Councilor Bottalico wanted to know why it did not go back to the contingency fund, and Mr. Salomone said that the money had been appropriated to the capital projects so it stayed within the capital projects fund. Councilor Bottalico indicated about \$4k should have gone back into the contingency fund and when closed out, should have gone to the capital fund. He stated he did not think you got true costs when you did not return contributed funds to a project to contingency funds. Mr. Salomone said that contributions went back into contingency and the amount showed for the project was the net cost to the Town. He indicated he would ask Ann Harter for further explanation of the accounting for various projects.

Councilor McBride moved the following:

**RESOLVED:**

That the Newington Town Council hereby accepts the final report dated May 3, 2012 of the Clem Lemire Artificial Turf Project Building Committee and formally discharges this committee;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The Newington Town Council hereby expresses its appreciation to the Chairman and to all the members, past and present, of the Clem Lemire Artificial Turf Project Building Committee for their diligence in overseeing the design and construction of the project.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Nagel and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett – absent).

**V. CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS**

- A. School Code Compliance Committee: Tennis Courts/Baseball Dugouts (**Action Requested**)
1. Accept Plans
  2. Authorize Town Manager to go out to Bid

Mayor Woods indicated the Council would need to waive the rules in order for action to be taken on the tennis courts and the baseball dugouts. Councilor Nagel indicated that both of the projects had been approved by the Council and money appropriated. He felt that it was the appropriate time of year for these projects to be done so they would be in place for the next school year. The dugouts were in the original plans but were removed because the committee was not happy with what was originally happening.

Lou Jachimowicz explained that the tennis courts would be a collaboration with the USTA. The Association approached the high school athletic director regarding the tennis courts and an initiative they have to promote youth tennis. The USTA breaks down the size of the tennis courts into three tiers to allow younger children to have the opportunity to play. The current courts are 36' x 78' in dimension. The alternate tennis sizes would be 60' x 21' (12 year olds) and for much younger children a tennis court would be flipped sideways and two or three courts could be put on it going the opposite direction. He explained that he was not sure of the exact dollar amount that could be awarded but they applied for a \$50k grant, which would subsidize part of the Town's cost for the project.

Councilor McBride commented he supported the project and was not aware of the different sizes. He felt it would enable kids to get the right direction and would enjoy the game more. He felt it would give kids another outlet for exercise and for getting kids moving.

Councilor Cohen moved to waive the rules so the Council could take action on the tennis courts and baseball dugouts projects. The motion was seconded by Councilor Nagel and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett – absent).

Public Participation:

Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive: She stated she was in favor of the project and wondered if there would be lights included at the tennis courts. The Council explained that it would be considered as part of a separate project.

Councilor Nagel moved the following:

**RESOLVED:**

**Pursuant to Chapter 8, Article X, Section 8-45 (H), Project Building Committees, of the Newington Code of Ordinances, the Newington Town Council hereby approves the final plans for the High School Code Compliance Project for the Newington High School tennis court repair/replacement and the installation of new dugouts at the varsity baseball field as reviewed by the Town Council and as approved by School Code Compliance Project Building Committee and the Newington Board of Education.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

**That the Newington Town Council authorizes the above listed project to proceed to bid.**

Councilor Cohen seconded the motion and the motion passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett – absent).

**B. Proposed Amendment to the IBPO Police Contract (Action Requested)**

John Salomone explained that the Animal Control Officer retired and that enabled the Town to look at different ways to fill the position, save money, provide better service and possibly do the job on a regional basis. The Town entered into discussions with Wethersfield to share the responsibility of the position. He stated they had a tentative agreement with Wethersfield to utilize two of their staff (PT) and two individuals to be appointed by the Town so a total of four part time individuals (no benefits/pension) with about 80 hours of coverage for both towns. Mr. Salomone stated Newington would get about double the coverage that is in place currently. To make it a reality, the Town must negotiate with the Police Department (IBPO) since the existing job is a union position. The Town had to negotiate the impact of the Police losing the union position, which Mr. Salomone just concluded. The Council would be getting a formal agreement when the agreement was finalized.

Councilor Cohen moved to waive the rules so the Council could act on the agreement reached with the Town and IBPO. The motion was seconded by Councilor DelBuono and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett – absent).

Public Participation: none

Councilor Cohen moved the following:

**WHEREAS, the Town of Newington and the International Brotherhood of Police Officers (IBPO) wish to modify the present union contract, which expires on June 30, 2013; and**

**WHEREAS, the Town of Newington wishes to eliminate the Animal Control Officer which is part of the employee bargaining unit for the IBPO and combine said function with the Town of Wethersfield; and**

**WHEREAS, the Town of Newington must bargain with the IBPO on the impact of the elimination of the Animal Control Officer; and**

**WHEREAS, the Town of Newington and the IBPO have reached an agreement on the impact of the elimination of the Animal Control Officer;**

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Newington Town Council authorizes the Town Manager to enter into the attached agreement which will enable the Town to implement said reorganization.**

The motion was seconded by Councilor DelBuono and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett – absent).

**VI. RESIGNATIONS/APPOINTMENTS (Action May Be Taken)**

**A. Appointments to Boards and Commissions**

Councilor McBride moved the following:

**RESOLVED:**

**That the Newington Town Council hereby makes the following appointments:  
Central Connecticut Health District Board of Directors**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Appointing Party</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Replaces</b>
<b>Margaret M. Hanbury</b>	<b>215 Candlewyck Drive</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>IMMED-6/30/13</b>	<b>Enzo Pistrutto (Resigned 5-2012)</b>
<b>Kristine Nasinnyk</b>	<b>50 Theodore Street</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>7/1/12-6/30/15</b>	<b>Vacant (New Position)</b>

The motion was seconded by Councilor Bottalico and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett – absent).

**VII. TAX REFUNDS (Action Requested)**

Councilor McBride moved the following:

**RESOLVED:**

**That property tax refunds in the amount of \$86.37 are hereby approved in the individual amounts and for those named on the “Requests for Refund of an Overpayment of Taxes,” certified by the Revenue Collector, a list of which is attached to this resolution.**

The motion was seconded by Councilor Nagel and passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett – absent).

**VIII. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**A. June 12, 2012 – Regular Meeting**

The motion to accept the June 12, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Councilor Bottalico and seconded by Councilor McBride. The motion passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett – absent).

**IX. WRITTEN/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER, OTHER TOWN AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS, OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS AND THE PUBLIC**

None

**X. COUNCIL LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

**XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – IN GENERAL (In Person/Via Telephone)**

Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive: She stated there had been talk around town regarding various ongoing projects in Town and said the opportunity was there for the public to appear at meetings to voice their opinions. She said that Parks and Rec was talking about possibly moving the community center and if the public had any input, they should say it at the meetings and not wait until the project was completed. She also mentioned being confused about contingency funds or CIP, since she was under the impression there was an ordinance that the money went back into the general funds for the artificial turf field.

**XII. REMARKS BY COUNCILORS**

Councilor Borjeson commented on the great parade held on Saturday for the 95<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fire Department and the Town should be proud of the Fire Department. He also attended a transit (inaudible) development meeting and discussion on pedestrian transportation. The development of Connecticut's transit future and economic opportunity was discussed and multi-use/mix use of sites. Councilor Borjeson stated they talked about quality development, developers will come if the plan is good and minimizing observable utilities.

Councilor Bottalico mentioned the article in the paper regarding police overtime and that the Council was overwhelmingly satisfied with the Chief's explanation. He was not satisfied. He asked Mr. Salomone about the status of the electrical audit and he said that one proposal was received, which was not adequate and they would be going back again. Councilor Bottalico received some complaints from residents as to why if they mail their taxes in, they go to Boston. Mr. Salomone indicated that the Boston location was a locked box and cost the Town less money. Councilor Bottalico stated that he received the new figures and the Town was no longer 80/20 but 48% of the taxpayers had no increase or stayed the same. Fifty-two percent of the taxpayers went up in their taxes plus most of the cars stayed the same or went up. He said that was very disturbing to him since he felt they did not do a good job on the budget.

**XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION RE: PERSONNEL**

Tabled.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilor Bottalico moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. and the motion was seconded by Councilor Borjeson. The motion passed 8 – 0 (Councilor Klett – absent).

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Irish-Simpson  
Clerk of the Council